

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of prioritizing a plurality of items for presentation to a graphical user interface comprising:
 - (a) determining for each of said items two or more criteria selected from the group consisting of (i) a time first opened, (ii) a time last opened, (iii) a number of times accessed during a predetermined time interval, (iv) a visibility on the graphical user interface, (v) an amount of scrolling, (vi) a content therebf, (vii) a time of day and (viii) a user history related to one or more of said criteria; and
 - (b) establishing a priority of said plurality of items based on the criteria determined by step (a).
2. The method of claim 1, wherein said visibility includes a length of time visible on the graphical user interface and an amount of visibility on the graphical user interface.
3. The method of claim 2, further comprising (c) presenting said items to said graphical user interface according to said priority.
4. The method of claim 1, further comprising (d) establishing a relationship between two of said criteria, and wherein step (b) determines said priority based on said criteria and said relationship.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein said relationship is a relative importance.

6. The method of claim 3, wherein said items are files and wherein step (c) presents said files by names thereof in a list to said graphical user interface according to said priority.

7. The method of claim 3, and wherein said items are windows, and wherein step (c) presents said windows to said graphical user interface according to said priority.

8. The method of claim 7, further comprising (d) establishing a relationship between two of said criteria, and wherein step (b) determines said priority based on said criteria and said relationship.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein said relationship is a relative importance.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein step (b) establishes that a first window of said plurality of windows has a higher priority than a second window thereof, and wherein step (c) presents said first and second windows for visual presentation so that said first window is prominently distinguished from said second window by one or more of the visual characteristics selected from the group consisting of: viewing position, window position, color, size, and intensity.

11. The method of claim 3, wherein said items are icons, and wherein step (c) presents said icons for display at locations on said graphical user interface that are ordered according to said priority.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein said items are web

pages, and further comprising (e) storing said web pages in a cache and (f) discarding from said cache one or more of said plurality of web pages, of which the priority is lower than that of the remainder of said plurality of web pages.

13. The method of claim 12, further comprising (d) establishing a relationship between two of said criteria, and wherein step (b) determines said priority based on said criteria and said relationship.

14. The method of claim 3, wherein step (c) responds to a user selection of a skip function to present to said graphical user interface one of said plurality of items that has a higher priority than that of the remainder of said plurality of items.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein said skip function is a back function.

16. A computer readable medium that includes computer executable instructions for performing the steps comprising:

(a) determining for each of a plurality of items two or more criteria selected from the group consisting of (i) a time first opened, (ii) a time last opened, (iii) a number of times accessed during a predetermined time interval, (iv) a visibility on the graphical user interface, (v) an amount of scrolling, (vi) a content thereof, (vii) a time of day and (viii) a user history related to one or more of said criteria; and

(b) establishing a priority of said plurality of items based on the criteria determined by step (a).

17. The computer readable medium of claim 16, wherein said visibility includes a length of time visible on the graphical user interface and an amount of visibility on the graphical user interface.

18. The computer readable medium of claim 17, further comprising (c) presenting said items to said graphical user interface according to said priority.

19. The computer readable medium of claim 18, further comprising (d) establishing a relationship between two of said criteria, and wherein step (b) determines said priority based on said criteria and said relationship.

20. The computer readable medium of claim 19, wherein said relationship is a relative importance.

21. The computer readable medium of claim 18, wherein said items are files and wherein step (c) presents said files by names thereof in a list to said graphical user interface according to said priority.

22. The computer readable medium of claim 18, wherein said items are windows, and wherein step (c) presents said windows to said graphical user interface according to said priority.

23. The computer readable medium of claim 22, wherein step (b) establishes that a first window of said plurality of windows has a higher priority than a second window thereof, and wherein step (c) presents said first and second windows for visual presentation so that said first window is

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prominently distinguished from said second window by one or more of the visual characteristics selected from the group that consists of: viewing position, window position, color, size, and intensity.

24. The computer readable medium of claim 23, further comprising (d) establishing a relationship between two of said criteria, and wherein step (b) determines said priority based on said criteria and said relationship.

25. The computer readable medium of claim 20, wherein said items are icons, and wherein step (c) presents said icons for display at locations on said graphical user interface that are ordered according to said priority.

26. The computer readable medium of claim 20, wherein said items are web pages, and further comprising (e) storing said web pages in a cache and (f) discarding from said cache one or more of said plurality of web pages, of which the priority is lower than that of the remainder of said plurality of web pages.

27. The computer readable medium of claim 26, further comprising (d) establishing a relationship between two of said criteria, and wherein step (b) determines said priority based on said criteria and said relationship.

28. The computer readable medium of claim 16, further comprising (c) in response to a user selection of a skip function, presenting to said graphical user interface one of said plurality of items that has a higher priority than that of the remainder of said plurality of items.

29. The computer readable medium of claim 28, wherein said skip function is a back function.

30. A computer system comprising:

a graphical user interface;

a computer mechanism that presents a plurality of items for display on said graphical user interface, said computer mechanism including a means that prioritizes an order of presentation of said plurality of items to said graphical user interface, said prioritization means comprising:

(a) a means for determining for each of said items two or more criteria selected from the group consisting of: (i) a time first opened, (ii) a time last opened, (iii) a number of times accessed during a predetermined time interval, (iv) a visibility on the graphical user interface, (v) an amount of scrolling, (vi) a content thereof, (vii) a time of day and (viii) a user history related to one or more of said criteria; and

(b) a means for establishing a priority of said plurality of items based on the criteria determined by means (a).

31. The computer system of claim 30, wherein said visibility includes a length of time visible on the graphical user interface and an amount of visibility on the graphical user interface.

32. The computer system of claim 31, wherein said prioritization means further comprises (c) a means for

presenting said items to said graphical user interface according to said priority.

33. The computer system of claim 32, wherein said prioritization means further comprises (d) a means for establishing a relationship between two of said criteria,

34. The computer system of claim 33, wherein said relationship is a relative importance.

35. The computer system of claim 32, wherein said items are files and wherein means (c) presents said files by names thereof in a list to said graphical user interface according to said priority.

36. The computer system of claim 32, and wherein said items are windows, and wherein means (c) presents said windows to said graphical user interface according to said priority.

37. The computer system of claim 36, wherein means (b) establishes that a first window of said plurality of windows has a higher priority than a second window thereof, and wherein means (c) presents said first and second windows for visual presentation so that said first window is prominently distinguished from said second window by one or more of the visual characteristics selected from the group consisting of: viewing position, window position, color, size, and intensity.

38. The computer system of claim 32, wherein said items are icons, and wherein means (c) presents said icons for display at locations on said graphical user interface that are ordered according to said priority.

39. The computer system of claim 32, wherein means (c) responds to a user selection of a skip function to present to said graphical user interface one of said plurality of items that has a higher priority than that of the remainder of said plurality of items.

40. The computer system of claim 39, wherein said skip function is a back function.

41. A computer system that presents a plurality of web pages to a graphical user interface, said computer system comprising:

a cache;

a prioritization means comprising:

(a) a means for determining for each of said web pages two or more criteria selected from the group consisting of: (i) a time first opened, (ii) a time last opened, (iii) a number of times accessed during a predetermined time interval, (iv) a visibility on the graphical user interface, (v) an amount of scrolling, (vi) a content thereof, (vii) a time of day and (viii) a user history related to one or more of said criteria;

(b) a means for establishing a priority of said plurality of items based on the criteria determined by means (a);

(c) a means for storing said web pages in said cache; and

(d) a means for discarding from said cache one of said plurality of web pages, of which the priority is lower than that of the remainder of said plurality of web pages.

42. The computer system of claim 41, further comprising (d) a means for establishing a relationship between two of said criteria, and wherein means (b) determines said priority based on said criteria and said relationship.

43. The computer system of claim 42, wherein said relationship is a relative importance.

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